

**AMES PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
**City Hall Council Chambers – 515 Clark Avenue**  
**Thursday, March 27, 2025**

**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC:** The Parks and Recreation Commission welcomes comments from the public during discussion. The Standards of Decorum, posted at the door and available on the City website, define respectful conduct for public participation. If you wish to speak, please complete a green card and hand it to City staff prior to the meeting. When your name is called, please step to the microphone, state your name and address for the record, and limit the time used to present your remarks to three minutes so others have the opportunity to speak. The normal process on an agenda item is staff may first give a report on the item, Commissioners may ask questions for clarification, public input is received, a motion is placed on the floor, the Commission discusses the issue or responds to the audience concerns, and the vote is taken. In consideration of all, if you have a cell phone, please turn it off or put it on silent.

1. Call to Order: 4:00 PM
2. Approval of Minutes from February 20, 2025
3. Public Forum (For items not on the agenda)
4. Motion approving the Jaycees request to:
  - a. Sponsor “Ames on the Half Shell,” utilizing Bandshell Park on five Fridays between May 30 and June 27, 2025; and
  - b. Recommend City Council approve alcohol to be served at Bandshell Park on five Fridays between May 30 and June 27, 2025; and
  - c. Waive the Jaycees payment of a \$1.00 facility fee per ticket sold and 10% of their gross food/beverage sales from “Ames on the Half Shell” events.
5. Motion recommending City Council approve naming rights of the Mini-Pitch project at Lloyd Kurtz Park.
6. Motion approving the Youth Volleyball Camps Agreement with Ames High School Volleyball program for calendar year 2025.
7. Micromobility Update (Staff Report from March 11, 2025, City Council meeting attached)
8. Park Rules and Ordinances Discussion
9. Ada Hayden Boat Rentals Update
10. Parks and Recreation Commission for 2025/2026
  - a. New Members
  - b. Sarah Cady

11. Project Updates
  - a. Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center
  - b. Steven L. Schainker Plaza
  - c. Agility Course at Carr Park
  - d. Daley Park Splash Pad
  - e. Park Maintenance Facility Expansion Project
  - f. Parks and Recreation Administration Office Renovation
12. Monthly Report
13. Commission Member Comments
14. Next Meeting:
  - a. April 17, 2025, at 4:00 PM (Regular Meeting)
15. Adjournment

**CITY OF AMES  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE** February 20, 2025

**COMMISSION PRESENT** Sarah Cady, Janet Rathe, Duane Reeves, Debra Tapp, Jeff White

**ABSENT** Jeff Iles, Nathan Shimanek

**STAFF** Keith Abraham, Joshua Thompson

**1. CALL TO ORDER: 4:02 PM**

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION: (Reeves/White) to approve the January 16, 2025, meeting minutes.

*MOTION PASSED: (5-0)*

**3. PUBLIC FORUM**

None

**4. MOTION APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH MID-IOWA LACROSSE ORGANIZATION, INC.**

Mid-Iowa Lacrosse Organization, Inc. (MILO) and Ames Parks and Recreation wish to continue partnering to offer lacrosse clinics at Emma McCarthy Lee Park. Abraham reported participation increased to 14 registrations in 2024, up from 8 in 2023. MILO hopes for continued growth. The renewal agreement is unchanged from prior years. MILO provides equipment and instruction, and program fees are shared – 60 percent paid to MILO and 40 percent retained by the City.

*MOTION: (Rathe/Tapp) to recommend Alternative 1, which states:*

Approve the agreement with Mid-Iowa Lacrosse Organization, Inc. to offer a Flex6 Lacrosse program in 2025.

*MOTION PASSED: (5-0)*

**5. MOTION APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH AMES YOUTH BASEBALL**

Thompson reported staff recommends renewing the long-standing agreement between Ames Parks and Recreation and Ames Youth Baseball regarding use of baseball fields at Brookside Park. The renewal agreement contains no changes except the dates.

Reeves asked if upcoming removal of field lighting would interfere with facility usage. Abraham said light removal would not occur for a few years and can be done outside of the baseball season. Thompson noted the lights have not been functional for some time.

*MOTION: (Tapp/Reeves) to recommend Alternative 1, which states:*

Approve the agreement with Ames Youth Baseball regarding use of Fields 7, 8, and 9 in Brookside Park, from April 1, 2025, to November 1, 2025.

*MOTION PASSED: (5-0)*

## **6. PROJECT UPDATES**

### **a. Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center**

Since the January 2025 Commission meeting, Abraham reported, Story Construction and RDG Planning & Design gave an in-person project report to City Council. At the project site, natatorium work progress includes all precast and steel installed, and roof work is underway. Non-natatorium precast is done, plus most of the steel. Extreme cold weather temporarily affected roofing work progress. As roofing work is completed from west to east – exterior openings are covered – interior heating will allow electrical conduit and ductwork installation. Digging of the wellness pool basin will begin within the next month. As roofing continues, a second crew will begin work on the lap pool, with work meeting in the middle with the rec pool. RDG and Story Construction did a walk-through of the precast and some of the steel to develop a punch list of any needed repairs to address before the end of the project. Staff presented budget information to City Council on February 5, 2025, including Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center information, and shared the good story of project costs decreasing from an estimated \$32 million a year ago to \$28 million now and perhaps as low as \$25 million when done, yielding a quality facility without breaking the bank.

### **b. Steven L. Schainker Plaza**

At the end of January, staff received from Terracon ground penetrating radar results that found inconsistencies in the depth of the refrigerant tubing. An elevation survey found most as-built elevations are low and the ice-skating ribbon surface will not drain properly. Henkel Construction and the City's concrete expert will review this information. Henkel Construction's request to test the ice will be considered by the concrete expert; Confluence, the lead designer; and the ice consultant. Staff hopes to have information and direction for moving forward by the March 27 Commission meeting. When weather allows, seeding and planting work will be done. City Council's decision about opening the spray pad or waiting until all project work is done will follow. There may be some discussion beforehand with the Commission, Abraham indicated.

### **c. Daley Park Splash Pad**

Thompson shared details about State of Iowa approval of a waiver regarding required bathroom fixtures that may have doubled project costs. The waiver approval reduces both capital and operational costs. Staff will work with Snyder & Associates and a splash pad vendor to bring updated costs and bid specifications to City Council. Thompson said this is a huge win for the City and residents. Abraham indicated approximately \$300,000 in savings could potentially be applied to other project(s).

## **7. MONTHLY REPORT**

Thompson highlighted two items at Ada Hayden Heritage Park.

- In late January, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources stocked the north lake with rainbow trout. Due to potential ice instability, the stocking was unpublicized.
- Staff recently removed invasives and volunteer trees around the lake perimeter to improve sight lines. Parks and Recreation will implement new standards and invest in equipment to make this work easier and to improve management of invasives and woody vegetation.

Cady asked if staff had concern about cancelled grant funding. Thompson reported receiving an email earlier in the day from the Arbor Day Foundation regarding notice from the federal

government cancelling the entire awarded USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Inflation Reduction Act Grant totaling \$810,500.

Abraham highlighted the following Recreation items:

- Many new programs and classes began in January.
- Staff hosted Duckpin bowling clinics at Sixty Forward, with 31 participants. A Duckpin bowling league just began as well.

Reeves asked if the noted 131 fitness class participants at Sixty Forward exceeded expectations. Abraham said everything at Sixty Forward is exceeding expectations, that people love having fitness classes, EGYM, and cardio equipment at the facility. Nancy Shaw, Public Wellness Manager, will continue to look to offer additional classes for that age demographic, and staff expects continued growth. Rathe shared her 90-year-old mother loves her fitness class at Sixty Forward, and that participation numbers will probably increase when “snowbirds” return to Ames. Abraham said this level of interest may be indicative of what to expect at Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center, which will include spaces for various classes and fitness activities.

#### **8. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS**

None

**9. NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, March 27, 2025, 4:00 PM (Regular Meeting)

#### **10. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION (Reeves) to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 4:27 PM.

**COMMISSION ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: AMES JAYCEES REQUEST TO UTILIZE BANDSHELL PARK FOR “AMES ON THE HALF SHELL” AND WAIVE ITS FACILITY FEE PER TICKET AND PAYMENT OF 10% OF GROSS FOOD AND BEVERAGE SALES TO THE CITY OF AMES**

**BACKGROUND:**

Ames On the Half Shell is an event sponsored by the Ames Jaycees featuring live bands and concession sales (including food, beer, wine coolers, and soft drinks). According to the organizers, the bands will perform adult pop-rock music, similar to what might be heard at a wedding reception.

As their request (Attachment A) states, the Jaycees are requesting to utilize Bandshell Park on five Friday evenings between May 30 and June 27, with performances scheduled from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. (ending no later than 8:30 p.m., with teardown by 9:30 p.m.) They also request to serve alcohol between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m., to be consumed at ground level within a fenced-in area, with the fence removed no later than 9:00 p.m.

In 2024, the Jaycees paid \$3,180 in rental fees for its five-events. The Jaycees have previously requested the Commission waive the \$1.00 per ticket facility fee and the 10% of gross food and beverage sales payment to the City of Ames. For 2025, they are again requesting the waiver of these fees.

Additionally, the Jaycees are requesting that the Commission recommend to the City Council to allow alcohol sales (beer and wine coolers) at Bandshell Park during this event. A City ordinance currently allows alcohol consumption only in specific community parks (Brookside, Inis Grove, River Valley, McCarthy Lee, and Moore Memorial).

The Jaycees provided data for 2024 and 2023 events, as shown in the table below for comparison:

<b>Category</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Total Attendance	2,118	2,542
Paid Admission (\$5)	\$9,170	\$11,090.00
Alcoholic Beverages Sold	3,456	3,895
Total Gross Revenue	\$30,117.43	\$32,745.00
10% Fee Waived by City	\$ 2,094.74	\$ 2,165.50
Facility Fees Waived	\$ 1,834.00	\$ 2,218.00

2023 was one of its best years recently, due to the return of performer Saucy Jack. Beer prices were also raised in 2023 year from \$4 to \$6.

The Jaycees donate their profits from Ames On the Half Shell to various community projects, such as the holiday food baskets and the Blast Back to School Project. Over the years, they have donated \$7,500 to the Parks and Recreation Department's Youth Scholarship Fund.

Subject to Commission approval, City Council action would be required to allow the sale and consumption of alcohol and ensure the Jaycees have obtained the necessary liquor licenses and are in compliance with all local and State alcohol laws. In case a concert gets cancelled due to weather, staff will be asking City Council to provide staff with administrative authority to reschedule without having to get additional Council approval for rain dates.

The Jaycees would fence off the area in front of the Bandshell (playground area and Durham Bandshell would not be included) and charge a \$5 per person admission fee. The admission fee is to cover the cost of each band. Attendees may also purchase alcohol drink tokens (plastic bottles of beer or wine coolers) for \$6 each and non-alcoholic drink tokens (soda or bottled water) for \$1 each.

Each year, Parks and Recreation administrative staff attend the event and have recognized the event's appeal to attendees of all ages. Police Department reports indicate that no complaints were received from 2007–2009, 2011-2015, and 2019-2024. There was one complaint in 2010, two in 2016 and 2017, and one in 2018. Police also reported that the event was well managed, and the size of the crowd and related parking issues were comparable to Thursday evening municipal band concerts.

In 2024, the Jaycees requested meetings with Parks and Recreation staff to discuss potential fee options. Several discussions were held in the fall and winter of 2024 between staff and Jaycees members, with results reflected in the alternatives below.

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the Jaycees' request to:
  - a) Sponsor "Ames On the Half Shell", utilizing Bandshell Park on five Fridays between May 30 and June 27, with the band playing from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., ending no later than 8:30 p.m., and teardown by 9:30 p.m.
  - b) Recommend City Council approve alcohol sales at Bandshell Park on five Fridays between May 30 and June 27, between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.,

consumed at ground level within a fenced-in area, with the area cleared no later than 9:00 p.m. or the fence removal, whichever comes first, and City Council require the Jaycees to obtain a State liquor license to comply with local and State liquor laws.

- c) Waive the Jaycees' payment of the \$1.00 per ticket sold and 10% of gross food and beverage sales.

2. Approve the Jaycees' request to:

- a) Sponsor "Ames On the Half Shell", utilizing Bandshell Park on five Fridays between May 30 and June 27, with the band playing from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., ending no later than 8:30 p.m., and teardown by 9:30 p.m.
- b) Recommend City Council approve alcohol sales at Bandshell Park on five Fridays between May 30 and June 27, between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., consumed at ground level within a fenced-in area, with the area cleared no later than 9:00 p.m. or the fence removal, whichever comes first, and City Council require the Jaycees to obtain a State liquor license to comply with local and State liquor laws.
- c) Deny the waiver of the \$1.00 facility fee and 10% of gross food and beverage sales payment.

3. Approve the Jaycees' request to:

- a) Sponsor "Ames On the Half Shell", utilizing Bandshell Park on five Fridays between May 30 and June 27, with the band playing from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., ending no later than 8:30 p.m., and teardown by 9:30 p.m.
- a) Recommend City Council approve alcohol to be served at Bandshell Park on five Fridays between May 30 and June 27, between the hours of 5-8pm and consumed at ground level within the fenced in area no later than 9pm or the removal of the temporary fencing whichever comes first; and City Council require the Jaycees to obtain a State liquor license to assure compliance with local and State liquor laws.

- b) Waive the 10% gross food and beverage sales payment.

- c) Deny the waiver of the \$1.00 facility fee.

4. Deny the Jaycees' request to utilize Bandshell Park for "Ames On the Half Shell."

5. Refer back to staff.

**STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

When reviewing requests for events and fee waivers, staff must consider several things, including the precedent set by waiving fees that would reduce the Auditorium and Bandshell subsidy. In the past, the Commission has granted fee waivers to the Jaycees due to their commitment to community betterment and support of Parks and Recreation.

Staff also considers the pros and cons the activity will have on the group making the request, the adjacent property owners, and the community at large. While some residents may express concerns, staff considers the overall feedback and event history to be a positive for the community. Therefore, staff recommends Alternative #1 as stated above.

# Ames Jaycees Ames on the Half Shell Event Map



## **Map Key:**

- 1- Admission
- 2- Title Sponsor (Cars will be located here)
- 3- Tokens
- 4- Community Partner
- 5- Beverages
- 6- Food Vendor
- 7- Food Vendor
- 8- Nightly Sponsor
- 9- Nightly Sponsor

**Alcohol Serving Area  
(Fence set up per red lines below)**





## 2025 Ames on the Half Shell (AOTHS)

### Project Location/Waiver Request

#### History:

The Ames on the Half Shell project held its inaugural event in the summer of 2003 at Bandshell Park. This project was established to raise money for Bandshell restoration while introducing an evening summer concert series in Ames. At the time of introduction, no other similar band concerts were being held in the downtown Ames area. This project has since grown into the largest and most successful rotating band concert series in Ames.

#### 2025 Plans:

The 2025 Ames on the Half Shell events will operate Friday evenings: May 30, June 6, 13, 20, and 27. At this time we do not have a rain-out location. In the event of inclement weather we may be forced to cancel or postpone an event. The Ames Jaycees will consult with Ames Park and Rec to see if a reschedule date can be obtained. Each evening's event follows the same schedule; setup will begin at 3 p.m., the event will run from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m., and teardown will be completed by 9:30 p.m. All open containers will be removed from the park prior to the removal of the temporary fencing no later than 9 p.m.

We charge \$5 per person at the door and fifty percent of these revenues go directly toward the band's fee. Drink tokens will likely remain \$6 each for alcohol and \$1 each for soda or bottled water. We will also have at least one food vendor, community partners and several sponsors to help cover costs each night. The Ames Jaycees do not receive any of the proceeds from the food vendors' sales.

#### Requests:

The 2025 AOTHS Committee formally requests the use of Durham Bandshell Park, a waiver of the alcohol ordinance, the facility fee for ticketed events, and the vending policy fee of 10 percent of gross sales. The sale of alcohol is what allows this project to raise money that is given directly back to the community through Ames Jaycees projects. Funds that have been given directly to Ames Parks include contributions to the Durham Bandshell Renovation and the Ada Hayden Park Overlook Project. Beginning in 2015 the Ames Jaycees proudly presented a portion of the proceeds of Ames on the Half Shell to Ames Park and Recreation to help fund a scholarship for youth activities in the Ames community. The Jaycees also began hosting a non-profit organization each week to raise free-will donation funds for entities like Boys & Girls Club, Heartland Senior Services, the Story County Animal Shelter and the Arc of Story County.

The ability to contribute financially to the community through events like holiday food baskets is something that the Ames Jaycees continue to be very proud of. We are also able to provide our members with invaluable leadership development and project management skills through fundraising projects such as Ames on the Half Shell.

Ames on the Half Shell is our primary fundraiser held each year to fund these activities and donations. Therefore, the Ames Jaycees formally request that the Ames Parks and Recreation Commission allow us to return to Durham Bandshell Park for our 22nd season in the summer of 2025, while waiving the alcohol ordinance, facility fee for ticketed events, and the vending policy fee. The Ames Jaycees would also like to reserve the option to extend these waivers to additional dates in the event of a rain out. Thank you for your consideration.

Thank you,

/s/ Travis Lala

Travis Lala

Ames on the Half Shell

Ames Jaycees

**COMMISSION ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO NAME THE MINI-PITCH LOCATED IN LLOYD KURTZ PARK**

**BACKGROUND:**

At its November 12, 2024 meeting, City Council directed staff to solicit donations to lessen the City's financial commitment for installing a mini-pitch in Lloyd Kurtz Park. After Council awarded contracts on December 10, 2024 for the construction of a mini-pitch, staff developed promotional materials to solicit donations. Several categories with associated dollar amounts were created and are shown below:

Naming Rights	\$50,000
Banner Sponsor	\$ 5,000
Bench Sponsor	\$ 1,500
Donations:	
Platinum	\$ 2,500
Gold	\$ 1,500
Silver	\$ 1,000
Bronze	\$ 500

This information was sent to XXX businesses with staff receiving several responses. Three Bench Sponsor commitments were received from the following:

- Central State Bank
- Draintech
- Greater Iowa Credit Union

**Staff also heard from Kurt and Sindy Friedrich regarding the Naming Rights option. After several conversations, the Friedrichs have pledged \$50,000 for the mini-pitch naming rights.**

**NAMING POLICY:**

The City does have a Parks and Recreation Naming Policy and is shown in Attachment A. There are three categories in which a park and/or recreational facility can be named:

**Historic Events, People, and Places**

The history of a major event, place or person may play an important role in the naming or renaming of a park as communities often wish to preserve and honor the history of a city, its founders, other historical figures, its Native American

heritage, local landmarks and prominent geographical locations, and natural and geological features through the naming of parks.

### **Outstanding Individuals**

The City has benefited, through its evolution, from the contributions made by many outstanding individuals. This category is designed to acknowledge the sustained contribution that has been made by such individuals to the City and/or the development and management of the City's park and recreation system.

### **Major Donations**

Over the years, the City of Ames Parks and Recreation Department has benefited from the generosity of some of its residents, businesses, and foundations. On occasion, the significance of such donations may warrant consideration being given to requests from either the donor or another party to acknowledge such donations by naming.

In order for a naming request to be considered, an application must be completed and submitted to the Parks and Recreation Director. The Director will then review the application and make a recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Commission, who in turn make a recommendation to City Council. A final decision regarding the naming request will be made by the Council.

### **NAMING APPLICATION:**

Since staff solicited commitments for Naming Rights, an application form (Attachment B) was completed by staff. All the required information has been submitted. The application requests to name the Mini-Pitch in Lloyd Kurtz Park "The Friedrich Pitch" under the category of Major Donations.

The application provides more information, but a brief summary follows. Kurt and Sindy Friedrich are wanting to give back to the Ames community that has provided excellent opportunities for their family especially their children who grew up playing soccer in Ames. Friedrich Realty has been in business in Ames since 1927 and is a very reputable company. Kurt and Sindy's desire is to ultimately enrich the lives of others in Ames and enhance the quality of life within the community. They view the mini-pitch as a project that adds a uniqueness to an already wonderful park system. With the generous donation of \$50,000 for the development of the Mini-Pitch at Lloyd Kurtz Park, they can enrich many lives through the game of soccer, which has provided much joy and camaraderie for the Friedrich family and many others.

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Recommend City Council approve the request to name the Mini-Pitch located in Lloyd Kutz Park "The Friedrich Pitch."

2. Recommend City Council not approve the request to name the Mini-Pitch located in Lloyd Kutz Park “The Friedrich Pitch.”
3. Refer back to staff.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

This is the third request received since the Parks and Recreation Naming Policy was approved in 2016. Since the request refers to naming a major feature for a major donation, that criteria must be evaluated.

Regarding a major donation, the policy states:

From time to time, a significant donation may be made to the City that will add considerable value to the City’s park and recreation system. On such occasions, recognition of this donation by naming/renaming a park, recreation facility, and/or major feature in honor of or at the request of the donor will be considered.

The City Council may use its discretion as to what dollar amount is worthy of naming rights for individual projects, on a case-by-case basis.

Donors seeking naming rights for major donations with respect to an individual should follow the principles outlined in 4.b. Exceptions to this will be considered on their own merits.

Naming parks and/or recreational facilities with a company name is not permitted, however, company names will be considered for Major Features. Corporate logos, insignias, brands, or direct advertising text shall not be permitted.

Currently, the City has allocated \$351,190 for this project which is the amount of awarded contracts, contingency, and design services. If the \$50,000 from Kurt and Sindy Friedrich is accepted, their contribution will be 14% of the total project cost.

Most of Ames parks, recreational facilities, and major features are named after individuals who either donated land or made a financial contribution to the park and/or facility development. However, several parks have been named for outstanding individuals and include Ada Hayden Heritage Park, Lloyd Kurtz Park, and Carroll Marty Disc Golf Course. Ada Hayden was the first woman to receive a doctorate from Iowa State College. She was instrumental in persuading the State of Iowa to preserve 26 native prairie areas and has been inducted into the Iowa Conservation Hall of Fame and the Iowa Women’s Hall of Fame. Lloyd Kurtz served on the Parks and Recreation Commission and during his

tenure, the park system saw extensive expansion. Carroll Marty donated many hours of his time, as well as securing other volunteers, to develop the disc golf course. These examples are shown for comparison only and were named without a policy in place.

Regarding major donations, Helen Daley received naming rights for Daley Park by donating \$100,000 or 38% of the total project cost. Don and Ruth Furman donated \$2,000,000 or 21% of the total project cost for naming rights of the Furman Aquatic Center. The Fitch Family is the namesake of the under construction Fitch Family Indoor Aquatic Center for \$3,000,000 or 10.7% of the estimated project cost.

Kurt and Sindy Friedrich have good moral character, are well respected within Ames, and are willing to make a financial contribution for the mini-pitch construction.

Therefore, staff recommends Alternative 1 which is to recommend City Council approve the request to name the Mini-Pitch located in Lloyd Kutz Park "The Friedrich Pitch."

## ATTACHMENT A

### PARKS AND RECREATION NAMING POLICY

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The naming or renaming of parks and recreational facilities is a complex and sometimes emotionally evocative since assigning a name is a powerful and permanent identity for a public place and/or facility. The naming and renaming of parks and/or recreational facilities often requires significant resources in terms of changing names on signs, maps, and literature. In addition, excessive and constant name changing can be the source of confusion to the public. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to those that have an interest in the naming and or renaming of the City's parks and/or recreational facilities.

#### 2. DEFINITIONS

a. **Naming:**

The permanent name assigned by City Council to a given park or recreational facility.

b. **Parks:**

All traditionally designed parks, gardens, natural open spaces, woodlands, and specialized parks under the stewardship of the City of Ames Parks and Recreation Department.

c. **Recreational Facilities:**

Major structures such as community centers, swimming pools, and enclosed pavilions located within lands under the stewardship of City of Ames Parks and Recreation Department.

d. **Major Features:**

Major permanent components of park and recreational facilities, e.g., sports fields, tennis courts, playgrounds, shelters, fountains, artwork, or physical features (lakes). Rooms within buildings are considered to be Major Features.

e. **Amenities:**

Smaller furnishings and facilities in the parks and recreation system (e.g., benches, drinking fountains, tables, etc.). Amenities are not formally named. Recognition for donated amenities is possible.

f. **Donations:**

A donation of property, goods, or cash generally with no expectation of return. If the gift is contingent upon a special request, it is made subject to "condition."

### **3. POLICY STATEMENT**

It is the policy of the City of Ames Parks and Recreation Department to reserve the name or renaming of parks, recreational facilities, and/or major features for circumstances that will best serve the interests of the city and ensure a worthy and enduring legacy for the City's park and recreation system.

To this end, the City of Ames Parks and Recreation Department supports consideration of naming requests within the following broad categories.

#### **a. Historic Events, People, and Places**

The history of a major event, place or person may play an important role in the naming or renaming of a park as communities often wish to preserve and honor the history of a city, its founders, other historical figures, its Native American heritage, local landmarks and prominent geographical locations, and natural and geological features through the naming of parks.

#### **b. Outstanding Individuals**

The City has benefited, through its evolution, from the contributions made by many outstanding individuals. This category is designed to acknowledge the sustained contribution that has been made by such individuals to the City and/or the development and management of the City's park and recreation system.

#### **c. Major Donations**

Over the years, the City of Ames Parks and Recreation Department has benefited from the generosity of some of its residents, businesses, and foundations. On occasion, the significance of such donations may warrant consideration being given to requests from either the donor or another party to acknowledge such donations by naming.

### **4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

#### **a. Naming/renaming for Historic Events, People, and Places**

When considering naming a park, recreational facility, or major feature after events, people and places of historic, cultural or social significance, requests must demonstrate this significance through research and documentation and show there is continued importance to the city, region, state, and/or nation.

#### **b. Naming/renaming for Outstanding Individuals**

A park, recreational facility, or major feature may be named for an outstanding individual who has made a significant contribution to the Ames parks and recreation system, the City of Ames, the State of Iowa, or the nation. In addition to societal contributions, the moral character of the individual must be considered. When considering requests, it is preferred

that the individual has a connection to the park, recreational facility, or major feature being requested to be named.

**c. Naming/Renaming for Major Donations**

From time to time, a significant donation may be made to the City that will add considerable value to the City's park and recreation system. On such occasions, recognition of this donation by naming/renaming a park, recreation facility, and/or major feature in honor of or at the request of the donor will be considered.

The City Council may use its discretion as to what dollar amount is worthy of naming rights for individual projects, on a case-by-case basis.

Donors seeking naming rights for major donations with respect to an individual should follow the principles outlined in 4.b. Exceptions to this will be considered on their own merits.

Naming parks and/or recreational facilities with a company name is not permitted, however, company names will be considered for Major Features. Corporate logos, insignias, brands, or direct advertising text shall not be permitted.

**d. Renaming a park, recreational facility, and/or major feature**

Proposals to rename parks, recreational facilities, and/or major features whether for a major gift or community request are not encouraged. Likewise, names that have become widely accepted by the community will not be abandoned unless there are compelling reasons and strong public sentiment from the broader community for doing so. Historical or commonly used place names will be preserved wherever possible.

**e. Other Considerations**

When naming/renaming a park, recreational facility, and/or major feature, does the proposed name engender a strong positive image, have historical, cultural or social significance for future generations, and have broad public support?

To minimize confusion, parks will not be subdivided for the purpose of naming unless there are readily identifiable physical divisions such as roads or waterways. However, naming of specific major recreational facilities within parks will be permitted; under these circumstances such names should be different to the park name to avoid user confusion.

All signs that indicate the name of a park and/or recreational facility shall comply with City of Ames graphic and design standards. Specialized naming signage will not be permitted.

City of Ames Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to rename any park, recreational facility, and/or major feature if the person for whom it is named turns out to be disreputable or subsequently acts in a disreputable way.

## **5. PROCEDURES**

These procedures have been established to ensure that the naming or renaming of parks, recreational facilities, and/or major features is approached in a consistent manner.

### **a. Requests for naming/renaming of parks, recreational facilities and/or major features**

All requests for the naming or renaming of a park, recreational facility, and/or major feature shall be made by submitting a Naming Application to the Director of Ames Parks and Recreation.

The Naming Application will contain the following minimum information:

1. The proposed name.
2. Reasons for the proposed name.
3. Written documentation indicating a certification of character and community support for the proposed name (e.g., letters of support, petitions, etc.).
4. If proposing to name a park, include a description/map showing location and boundaries of the park.
5. If proposing to name a recreational facility or major feature within a park, include a description/map showing the location of the facility.
6. If proposing to rename a park, recreational facility, or major feature, include justification for changing an established name.
7. If proposing to name a park, recreational facility, or major feature for an outstanding individual, include documentation of that individual's significant contribution in regard to the Ames park system, the City, State and/or Nation.

### **b. Assessing and approving naming/renaming requests**

Upon receipt of a naming request by Ames Parks and Recreation, the Parks and Recreation Director shall:

1. Review the proposed request for its adherence to the Parks and Recreation Naming Policy.
2. Ensure that supporting information has been authenticated, particularly when an individual's name is proposed.
3. Seek input from relevant neighborhood association(s), historical groups, and other organizations, if deemed appropriate.

The Parks and Recreation Director will then present a recommendation regarding the naming request at a public meeting to the Parks and Recreation Commission. At this meeting, the Parks and Recreation Commission will develop their own recommendation regarding the request to be presented to City Council.

**c. Final decision by City Council**

The Parks and Recreation Commission's recommendation regarding the naming/renaming request, along with the Parks and Recreation Director's recommendation if different, will be presented to the City Council at a public meeting for a final decision.

**ATTACHMENT B**  
**CITY OF AMES PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**  
**NAMING APPLICATION**  
**PARKS, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND/OR MAJOR FEATURES**

**Person making the request**

Name: **Keith Abraham, Parks and Recreation Director**

Address: **515 Clark Ave.**

City, State, Zip: **Ames, IA 50010**

E-mail Address: **keith.abraham@cityofames.org**

Phone: **515-239-5349**

**Naming request**

Please check what is being requested to be named/renamed:

- Park

Park Name:

Park Location:

*Please attach a description/map showing the location and boundaries of the park.*

- Recreational Facility

Facility Name:

Facility Location:

*Please include a description/map showing the location of the facility.*

- Major Feature

Major Feature to be named: **Mini Pitch**

Major Feature location: **Lloyd Kurtz Park, 3710 Hyde Ave.**

*Please include a description/map showing the location of the Major Feature.*

Please list the proposed name:

**The Friedrich Pitch**

Please list the reasons for the proposed name:

**Kurt and Sindy Friedrich are excited about this amenity and donating to this project. The name includes the Friedrich name and what the amenity is and is what the Friedrich's have proposed.**

Please attach written documentation indicating a certification of character and community support for the proposed name.

**Friedrich Realty is a reputable company and have met the real estate needs of many individuals since 1927. They have developed many acres of land into thriving home developments and commercial structures over that time. Kurt Friedrich, Owner, and his family have been staples in the community for many years and see this donation of \$50,000 as an opportunity to give back to the community that has given so much to their family.**

If proposing to rename a park, recreational facility, or major feature, include justification for changing an established name.

**As mentioned earlier, Kurt and Sindy Friedrich are wanting to give back to the Ames community that has provided excellent opportunities for their family especially their children who grew up playing soccer in the Ames community. Also, Kurt and Sindy's desire is to ultimately enrich the lives of others in Ames. With the generous donation of \$50,000 for the development of the Mini-Pitch at Lloyd Kurtz Park, they can enrich many lives through the game of soccer, which has provided much joy and camaraderie for the Friedrich family and many others.**

If proposing to name a park, recreational facility, or major feature for an outstanding individual, include documentation of that individual's significant contribution in regards to the Ames park system, the City, State, and/or Nation.

**N/A**

**Please submit this application and all supporting documents to:**

**Director of Parks and Recreation  
515 Clark Avenue  
Ames, IA 50010**

## COMMISSION ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT:** YOUTH VOLLEYBALL CAMP AGREEMENT WITH AMES HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL (AHSVB)

### **BACKGROUND:**

Parks and Recreation has had a long-standing relationship with the Ames High School Volleyball program (AHSVB) to offer quality indoor and sand volleyball camps. Camps are six-weeks in length and available for youth in grades 3-6. The indoor volleyball camp is held April to June, and the sand volleyball camp is held June and July, annually. In 2024, indoor and sand volleyball camps had a total of 64 participants.

The presented agreement has no significant changes from prior years and AHSVB has agreed to the terms.

Highlights of the agreement, Attachment A, are shown below.

- AHSVB provides the instruction for the camps.
- City conducts registration and collects all fees.
- City retains 30% of all program fees paid, with 70% paid to AHSVB.
- Camps are held at City facilities, parks, and/or Ames Community School District gymnasiums as available.

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the Youth Volleyball Camps Agreement with Ames High School Volleyball program for calendar year 2025.
2. Do not approve the Youth Volleyball Camps Agreement with Ames High School Volleyball program.
3. Refer back to staff.

### **STAFF'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The partnership between AHSVB and Park and Recreation provides the opportunity to offer quality volleyball camps, empowers high school coaches to impact the development of youth, and introduces the community to the local high school program. Combining resources provides a higher level of service and reaches more customers than one agency could provide on their own.

Therefore, staff recommends Alternative #1, as described above.

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**Ames Parks & Recreation Department**  
**Youth Volleyball Camps Agreement**  
**2025**

- Purpose:** The City of Ames (“City”) will provide a quality lacrosse program by contracting with Ames High School Volleyball (“AHSVB”) to provide instruction.
- Leadership:** AHSVB will provide a minimum of one professional staff member to lead, supervise, and deliver volleyball instruction. The City’s Recreation Manager will visit the program site periodically to offer feedback to the AHSVB.
- Registration:** City will accept all program registrations and fees.
- Registration Fees:** City will retain 30% of all program fees paid, with the balance of 70% being paid to AHSVB. Payments will be made to AHSVB after completion of each session.
- Refunds:** If refunds are awarded, partially or in full, City or AHSVB will not retain or receive a balance percentage of the refunded amount. Refunds will be approved by City and follow City refund practices.
- Fee Determination:** The City and AHSVB will discuss program fees annually. Fees must be approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission prior to implementation.
- Lesson Plan:** AHSVB will be responsible for creating and implementing all lesson plans for spring and summer sessions. Sessions will consist of 1 class per week, for six weeks. Each class will last between 55-90 minutes.
- Partnership Roles:** City will be responsible for handling all registration, reserving indoor and outdoor facilities, and will provide storage, if necessary. AHSVB will be responsible for providing instructor(s), necessary equipment, and developing class curriculum. Both organizations will coordinate to market each program prior to registration and develop marketing material.
- Equipment:** City will supply all necessary equipment to play volleyball. AHSVB may bring other equipment to supplement the curriculum.

**Location:** Sand volleyball programs will be held at local parks, Inis Grove and/or Gateway Hills. Indoor programs will be held primarily at Ames Community Center gymnasium or available ACSD gymnasiums, with potential options of other indoor facilities that is agreed upon by City and AHSVB.

**Inclement Weather:** If a class needs to be cancelled due to inclement weather, a decision will be made between the City and AHSVB at least 60 minutes prior to classes beginning. The City's hotline and Facebook page will be updated immediately upon a decision being made. In the event the weather becomes inclement during outdoor class, class will be stopped immediately. If any classes are cancelled due to inclement weather, City and AHSVB will discuss date and time options to reschedule. City and AHSVB will coordinate make up class dates within the session schedule in advance, pending availability.

**Contracted Employees:** AHSVB will provide and be responsible for all staff members and volunteers. Lead coach or coaches must have completed background check through Ames Community School District or State of Iowa. Lead coaches must be onsite for the duration of each class.

**Storage:** Storage may be accessible by city parks and facilities, upon request by the Recreation Manager.

**Insurance:** The City and AHSVB will both carry liability insurance. AHSVB covenants and agrees to hold the City of Ames, its officers, and employees harmless and to indemnify them against each and every claim and demand of whatever nature made by or on behalf of any person or persons resulting from or arising out of any activities or omission arising out of the use of the ACSD, City facilities, other agreed upon facilities, and parks on the part of the AHSVB, its agents, servants, invitees, and employees, and for such purpose AHSVB agrees to carry liability insurance naming the City of Ames, its officers and employees as Additional Named Insured, such insurance to have limits of not less than \$500,000 combined single limit per occurrence.

AHSVB further agrees to file a Certificate of Insurance with the City Manager's Office, City of Ames, evidencing that such insurance has been furnished, and that the same will

not be cancelled without ten (10) days' notice to the City of Ames. This Certificate of Insurance must be filed prior to the execution of this agreement.

AHSVB staff is responsible for personal medical expenses.

**Program Evaluations:** City and AHSVB will conduct a joint program evaluation following each program.

**Agreement Terms:** This Agreement shall become effective on the date this Agreement is signed by both parties and can be terminated by either party upon (60) day prior written notice. Terms of the agreement will expire December 31, 2025.

**Contacts:**

**City of Ames:**

Alex Krook  
Recreation Coordinator  
515 Gateway Hills Park Dr.  
Ames, IA 50014  
[alex.krook@cityofames.org](mailto:alex.krook@cityofames.org)  
515-239-5358

**Ames High School Volleyball:**

Meg Williams  
Head Volleyball Coach  
1801 Ridgewood Avenue  
Ames, IA 50010  
meg.williams@ames.k12.ia.us  
712-303-7087

DATED AND EXECUTED AT AMES, IOWA, THIS \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

The City of Ames, Iowa  
Parks and Recreation Commission

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Commission

Grantee: Ames High School Volleyball

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ames High School Volleyball

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Report

**PROPOSED MICROMOBILITY ORDINANCE**

March 11, 2025

**BACKGROUND:**

Please see the attached staff report on micromobility.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

- [Micromobility Staff Report.pdf](#)
- [Attachment A - Ames Chapter 4 Bicycles.pdf](#)
- [Ankeny Ordinance.pdf](#)
- [Cedar Falls, IA Ordinances.pdf](#)
- [Cedar Rapids Ordinances.pdf](#)
- [Des Moines Ordinances.pdf](#)
- [Iowa City Ordinance.pdf](#)
- [ISU Bike Map 2024.pdf](#)



**To:** Parks and Recreation Commission Members  
**From:** Keith Abraham, Parks and Recreation Director  
**Date:** March 27, 2025  
**Subject:** Boat Rentals at Ada Hayden Heritage Park

Since 2005 JAX Outdoor Gear has been providing boat rentals on Saturdays and Sundays at Ada Hayden Heritage Park. This has been an excellent partnership for many reasons. Unfortunately, staff has been notified by JAX that they are not able to rent boats at Ada Hayden this year due to the difficulty in finding staff. JAX will continue to rent boats from its store and people can use them on any body of water.

Staff has done some research on self-serve rentals that do require a capital outlay to get started. However, there are no funds allocated in the budget for this purpose. It is something we can look at for 2026 if the Commission desires staff to pursue this option.

Staff would like to thank JAX Outdoor Gear for its commitment to providing boat rental opportunities for the past 20 years!



*Caring People ♦ Quality Programs ♦ Exceptional Service*

**TO: Keith Abraham, Director of Parks and Recreation**

**FROM: Staff**

**RE: Monthly Report March 2025**

#### **PARKS AND FACILITIES:**

1. Staff cleared snow on park trails and shared use paths in early March. Residents are reminded limited maintenance is performed on trails and should use caution when using trails throughout the year.
2. Staff prepared soccer fields at North River Valley and Emma McCarthy Lee Park for the spring youth soccer program.
3. The Ames Anglers along with staff from the Iowa DNR and the City of Ames installed fish habitat in the north lake of Ada Hayden Heritage Park. The fish habitat included cedar trees that were donated by a property owner on the southwest side of Ames. This is the second year that the Ames Anglers and Iowa DNR staff have assisted the City to install fish habitat at Ada Hayden Heritage Park.
4. A crew from the Conservation Corps of Iowa/Minnesota cut and applied herbicide to volunteer woody vegetation at Ada Hayden Heritage Park. Funds to complete the work was donated by the Friends of Ada Hayden Heritage Park.

#### **RECREATION PROGRAMS:**

1. Staff hosted a Hiring Tailgate at the Homewood Clubhouse on Saturday, February 22, from 10 AM to 12 PM. Representatives from all areas of the department shared job opportunities with prospective candidates. This marks the third year this event has been offered, providing a valuable opportunity for individuals to learn about temporary and part-time positions within Parks and Recreation.
2. In February, the Ames/ISU Ice Arena held 17 public skating sessions, drawing a total of 1,226 skaters. Additionally, 86 skaters participated in 15 figure freestyle sessions, and 110 skaters attended 13 stick-and-helmet sessions. The arena also hosted four birthday parties and sharpened 36 pairs of skates.

3. A new six-week session of fitness classes began at the Community Center on February 17, with 427 registrations. Both virtual and in-person attendance options continue to be available to meet participant demand.
4. A new six-week session of fitness classes also began at Sixty Forward on February 17, with 131 participants registering for programs.
5. In February, 42 individuals completed onboarding for the EGYM equipment at Sixty Forward.
6. The cardio and weight room at the Community Center saw a total of 820 visits throughout the month of February.
7. The Euchre and Cribbage leagues at Homewood Golf Course wrapped up their seasons. The Euchre League featured 28 participants (14 teams), while the Cribbage League had 13 morning participants and 12 evening participants.
8. The five-week Start Smart Basketball program for ages 3-5 concluded in February at the Community Center Gym. Two sessions were held every Saturday, with a total of 33 participants developing their early basketball skills.
9. February Auditorium Events – The Auditorium hosted a variety of events throughout February, including:
  - Hope Lutheran Church held four worship services.
  - Parks and Recreation presented two concerts as part of its "Fifth and Clark Fridays Series."
  - The Iowa All-State Speech Competition returned to the Auditorium.
  - Central Iowa Symphony held four rehearsals.
  - Story Theater hosted nine rehearsals and six performances of *Anne of Green Gables*.
  - Dancenter Dancer presented a community-based dance concert.
  - Cameron Gray held a film screening as part of his *We Glow in the Dark* series.

## **PROJECT UPDATE:**

1. City Council awarded a contract for two new playgrounds including installation to Boland Recreation, Marshalltown, Iowa, for Patio Homes West and Christofferson Parks. Once the playgrounds are installed, staff will complete the installation of the playground surfacing and concrete border around the playground equipment.
2. Staff recently completed the replacement of the roof on Shagbark Shelter at Inis Grove Park. The asphalt shingles were replaced with a metal roof. The picture below depicts the work that was completed.



3. Heartland Roofing, Siding, and Solar, Des Moines, Iowa, completed the North River Valley Concession Stand Roof Replacement Project. The work included the removal of the asphalt shingles, underlayment, fascia, soffit, and replaced with all new underlayment, metal roofing, fascia, and soffit. See the picture below of the work that was completed.

